

Remarks/Arguments

Reconsideration of this application is requested.

Claim Status

Claims 13-22 were previously presented. Claims 13-17 and 20 are canceled, and claims 18 and 21 are amended. Accordingly, claims 18, 19, 21 and 22 are now pending.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 18 is indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form and to overcome a rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, on the grounds that the phrase "such as" renders the claim indefinite. In response, claim 18 is rewritten in independent form including all limitations of base claim 17 from which it depends, and "such as" is replaced with "including" to make the claim definite. In addition, "in to" is changed to "into" as suggested by the Action. In view of these amendments, claim 18 is now in condition for allowance. Claim 19 depends from claim 18, and is similarly allowable.

Claims 21 and 22 are also indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form. In response, claim 21 is rewritten in independent form to include all limitations of base claim 20 from which it depends. Claim 22 depends from claim 21, and is similarly allowable.

Claim Rejections

Claims 13-17 and 20 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated by Toyoda (US 6,335,966). Claims 13 and 15 are also rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. Claims 13-17 and 20 are canceled, without prejudice, rendering their rejections moot.

Conclusion

This application is now believed to be in form for allowance. The examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned to resolve any issues that remain after entry of this amendment.

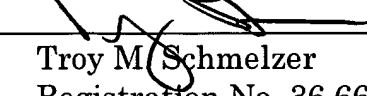
Appl. No. 09/680,727
Amdt. Dated June 7, 2005
Reply to Office Action of April 6, 2005

Atty. Ref. 81800.0137
Customer No. 26021

Any fees due with this response may be charged to our Deposit Account No.
50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: June 7, 2005

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